a depth of degradation, He who habitually looks upon his fellows in the former of these lights is apt to become hard-hearted, cunning, selfish, and grovelling. Believing mankind to be deceivers, he treats them as deceivers, and becomes himself a deceiver in doing so. Imagining himself to be surrounded by persons whose ruling principle is selfishness, and whose mean of furthering their end is deceit, he feels, in dealing with them, as if he were constrained to descend to their level, and fight them with their own weapons. On the other hand, he who views the race as ungodly, but who looks upon himself as tainted with the same evil, will be so awed by a sense of his own sinfulness as to be incapable of judging harshly of others; and the worst feelings with which he regards the race will be those of sorrow and commiseration.

We are not then at liberty to regard man with a cynic, scornful feeling, such as that which rises up when we look at a loathsome reptile. We may denounce man; but we should never despise him. We may blame, but we dare not contemn him, lest, in doing so, we should be contemning the noblest part of the workmanship of God in this lower world. There may be indignation, pity, or horror, but mingled with these there must be feelings of honour, respect, and reverence towards the essential parts and principles of a creature formed in the very image of God. We infer the height at which man was at first placed, from the greatness of his fall; we measure his elevation by the extent of his shadow.

Nor will these views induce us to retire from the world in disgust, or make us feel a less lively interest in the race. The truths on which our mind is made to dwell will rather tend to quicken and strengthen our love, and cause it to flow out in a deeper and stronger current. When is it that we think most of an earthly friend, and are most deeply concerned about his

welfare ? Is it when he is known to be in safety, dwelling in security in the bosom of his family, far from violence, or disease, or accident ? or rather, is it not when he is thought to be in danger, when he is on the midnight journey, in paths which robbers infest, or crossed by deep and rapid rivers, sweeping many an unguarded traveller from this world to the next ? When is it that the wife thinks most of the husband, and the sister feels the deepest interest in the brother ? Is it not when